



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

**IN THE MATTER OF
PRIORITIZATION OF
CASES AND DUTIES:
AMENDMENT TO ORDER OF
DECEMBER 1, 2009**

SUPERVISORY ORDER

On December 1, 2009, this court entered a supervisory order that set forth three lists of cases and duties to which judges, magistrates and staff should afford priority. The court now amends that order, in particular, the list of **General Priorities**, to include cases involving restrictions of an individual's liberty. This change is intended to clarify that sexually violent predator cases and postconviction relief actions, when they involve restrictions on an individual's liberty, are included in the general list of priority cases. Accordingly, the amended general priority case list that should guide judges, magistrates and court staff in the scheduling, hearing and handling of cases shall read as follows:

Priority Cases

Within the following general list of priority cases, judges, magistrates, and staff should exercise their judgment and give precedence based on the facts and circumstances of each case.

- Civil commitment cases under chapters 125 and 229
- Domestic abuse cases under chapter 236
- Juvenile cases under chapter 232, including child in need of assistance, termination of parental rights, and juvenile delinquency
- Criminal cases—especially where defendants demand speedy trial
- Cases involving child custody, physical care, visitation, and child support
- Guardianship cases
- Other cases involving a threat of serious harm to health or safety, or the restriction of an individual’s liberty

Dated this 4th day of February, 2010.

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

By Marsha Ternus
Marsha K. Ternus, Chief Justice